

ANNUAL REPORT

. . upon the . .

Health and Sanitary Condition

. . of the . .

Amble Urban District.



December, 1912.



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THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT OF AMBLE FOR THE YEAR 1912.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE AMBLE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,—

The year 1912 has been a very disappointing year and compares very unfavourably with its predecessor especially in regard to its summer.

Whereas the summer of 1911 was especially fine, the summer of 1912, on the contrary, was excessively wet ; in fact one might consider it to have been non-existent. Following on a cold and wet winter there came a few bright days in February, giving an early promise of Spring, and after that—the deluge ! Those who had their vitality and powers of resistance sapped and undermined by an inclement winter were unable to recuperate during the summer, and so were unfavourably prepared to encounter the exigencies of the autumn and succeeding winter. As was to be expected the chief brunt fell on those in the extremes of life—54% of the total number of deaths in the year occurred under five and over sixty-five years of age—and there was a considerable increase in general sickness and in epidemic infectious disease in the district throughout the whole year.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Amble is a seaport and the district is flat and low lying. Its population at the census of 1911 was 4883: it is calculated as being 5000 in 1912. The larger proportion of the male adult population is miners and these are employed at the adjacent collieries of Broomhill and Newburgh. In addition Warkworth Harbour, owing to the large shipping trade in coal, affords employment to many. There are a few fishermen.

AMOUNT OF POOR LAW RELIEF.

The amount of out-door relief expended in the urban district in 1912 was divided among the four quarters of the year as follows:—

Quarters ending—	In Money.			In Kind.			Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
31st March, 1912	71	5	6	1	5	8	72	11	2
30th June, „	64	2	0	1	3	10	65	5	10
30th Sept., „	56	11	0	4	8	4	60	19	4
31st Dec., „	59	11	6	5	10	2	65	1	8
	<hr/>			<hr/>			<hr/>		
	£251 10 0			£12 8 0			£263 18 0		

BIRTH RATE.

The number of births registered during the year was 142—77 boys and 65 girls—a decrease of 8 from the previous year. This gives a birth rate of 28.4 per 1000. Of these births 3 were illegitimate, a decrease of one from 1911 and 2.1 per cent of the births registered.

MORTALITY.

During the year 61 deaths were registered in the urban area. Transferable deaths (inward), that is deaths of residents which occurred in other administrative areas and which have been transferred to Amble, numbered 5. There were no outward transferable deaths. The corrected total number of deaths was therefore 66.

They occurred throughout the year as follows :—

January.....	5	May.....	5	September ...	3
February ...	9	June	4	October.....	3
March	4	July	3	November ...	4
April	7	August ...	6	December.....	13

Of these deaths 31 were of males and 35 of females.

The death rate was 13.2 per 1000, an increase of 0.1 per cent over 1911. From this total should be deducted 3 deaths due to accident, giving a corrected death rate of 12.6 per 1000.

ANALYSIS OF DEATH RATE.

The following details were taken from Table III appended to this report:—

Under 1 year, 13 deaths ; 1 and under 2 years, 3 ; 2 and under 5 years, 3 ; 5 and under 15 years, 4 ; 15 and under 25 years, 5 ; 25 and under 45 years, 7 ; 45 and under 65 years, 14 ; and 65 and upwards, 17 deaths.

The deaths from zymotic disease numbered 2, giving a death rate of 0.4 per 1000.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis (Phthisis) caused 2 deaths, a decrease of 3 deaths from 1911 and a death rate of 0.4 per 1000. Other tuberculous diseases caused 4 deaths, making a total of 6 deaths from tuberculous disease. Cancer claimed 3, a decrease of 4 from the total of the previous year and a death rate of 0.6 per 1000. Deaths from heart disease numbered 11, whilst respiratory diseases were the cause of 2 deaths, a decrease of 1 from 1911, with a death rate of 1.8 per 1000. No deaths occurred from epidemic diarrhoea.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The infantile deaths under 1 year numbered 13, being an increase of 1 as compared with 1911. This gives a death rate of 91.5 per 1000 births registered. Last year we had the third lowest recorded infantile mortality among urban districts in the county of Northumberland. This year the

rate is a little higher but still compares very advantageously with the infant death rate in England and Wales in 1911 which was 130.00.

Of the 13 deaths, 1 was due to whooping cough, 1 to tuberculous disease, 5 to premature birth, 4 to congenital debility and 2 to other causes.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year 30 cases of infectious disease were notified, an increase of 6 as compared with last year. They were as follows :—

Diphtheria	2	Puerperal Fever.....	2
Erysipelas.....	3	Pulmonary	
Scarlet Fever ...	19	Tuberculosis...	4

It will be noted that pulmonary tuberculosis having been made a notifiable disease has increased the number of cases of infectious disease by 4. Two cases of diphtheria occurred in the district, but fortunately both were of a favourable type. No definite cause could be discovered, both houses being in a sanitary condition. Two of the cases of erysipelas were idiopathic, and one was from wound infection. The scarlet fever occurred throughout the year. Fifteen houses in all were affected. One house had 3 patients, two had 2 patients in each and the remainder had single cases. They were scattered equally over the town and obtained their milk supply from one or other of all the dairies supplying the district. The outbreak was of an exceedingly mild type and no case ended fatally. The houses were disinfected by the Council's officials.

Measles was epidemic in the district from January to May. Whooping cough followed from May to September. Mumps then became epidemic, and, with a recurrence of the measles epidemic, occupied the remaining months of the year. All of the 5 schools in the district were closed for a short period on account of epidemic infectious disease (measles and mumps).

The Council supplies disinfectants free to cases of infectious disease on application.

Diphtheria antitoxin is also stocked for the Council by their Medical Officer and supplied free to medical practitioners in the district who desire it for their poorer patients.

HOUSING ACCOMODATION.

There was a sufficiency of houses for the needs of the population during the year. Some of the houses which were reported as being vacant at the end of 1911 were re-occupied in 1912 so that at the end of the year only nineteen dwelling houses were unoccupied. Four new houses were built in 1912. Two of these have water closets and two have ash closets.

Under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations 1910 (Article 5) 227 houses were inspected. 74 were found defective. Of these 51 were remedied on notice being served. The remainder are being attended to.

Four houses were reported to the Council as being unfit for habitation. Three of these were closed on the facts being brought to the notice of their owners. No closing order was required. A closing order made in the case of the fourth was not operative at the end of the year.

Two houses which were closed in 1911 were put in a habitable condition and re-occupied.

During the year 1439 visits of inspection were made. The character and sufficiency of houses for the working classes has been satisfactory. Three cases of overcrowding were found. Two were remedied. In one case the occupiers moved into a larger house, in the other case one of the two families occupying the house moved into another house. The third case was under notice but the notice had not expired at the end of the year.

There is plenty of open space around the houses and all are well lighted.

New houses are supervised during their erection by the Surveyor and the Inspector of Nuisances, who see that in the town modern sanitary conveniences are included.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supplied to the Urban District during the year was of the usual good quality. There was no shortage and the supply was a constant supply. For nine houses new connections to the water main were made.

MILK SUPPLY.

The milk has been of a wholesome character and the supply has been satisfactory. No cases of disease were found to be caused by it. The supply was obtained from dairies, some without and some within the urban district. There were 4 dairies, 4 cowsheds and 1 milkshop within this area, and 44 cows were kept. Four dairymen and one purveyor of milk were on the register. During the year 70 inspections were made. All the cowsheds had impervious floors, were well drained, lighted and ventilated. They were kept clean and limewashed regularly and all had a good water supply.

OTHER FOODS.

The general food supply has been good. The premises where food was prepared and sold were found on inspection to have been kept in a sanitary condition. No prosecutions took place under the Food and Drugs Act. No unsound meat was discovered.

BAKEHOUSES AND MINERAL WATER MANUFACTORIES.

There are two mineral water manufactories and one bakehouse in the town. They have been kept clean and in a satisfactory condition.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

There were five slaughter houses in the district. Of these three were on the register and two were licensed for 12 months. Two slaughter houses which were in close proximity to dwelling houses were no longer in use at the end of the year. Two hundred and fifteen inspections were made and the houses were found to have been kept in good condition. Four notices were served for minor defects and these were immediately remedied.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

The sewage of the district is discharged from a water carrier system of sewerage by a main outfall sewer into the harbour and by a small outfall sewer into the tidal Gut. It has been adequate for the needs of the district. Two new manholes were built at the junction of sewers for more efficient cleaning and flushing.

NUISANCES.

During the year 241 sanitary defects were found, for which 143 formal notices (inclusive) were served. As a result 203 nuisances were abated. Two statutory notices were served for structural defects in a house and a convenience. The latter was remedied.

A tabulated list will be found in the appendix.

REFUSE DISPOSAL AND SCAVENGING.

Forty-four privies were in the town and eleven in the country. Eleven privy middens were abolished during 1912 and were replaced by 2 water closets and 6 ash closets. Ten ash closets were replaced by the same number of water closets. There was therefore in the district at the end of the year:—

Fresh Water Closets ...	...	329
Ash Closets ...	...	444
Privy Middens ...	...	55
		<hr/> 828

No change has occurred in the number of houses reported in 1911 as not having separate sanitary conveniences, except that 4 privy middens have been replaced by 4 water closets.

The scavenging has been carried out as usual by the Council's employees in a very satisfactory manner. The excretal and dry refuse is removed bi-weekly.

RIVERS POLLUTION.

The insanitary condition of the Amble Gut, a tidal gut emptying into the river Coquet, which has been pointed out in previous reports, still remains unabated.

LODGING HOUSES.

One lodging house is registered in the district. It has received numerous inspections and has always been found in a tidy and clean condition.

Cases of disease were notified to me and none were found to have been of an infectious nature.

SCHOOLS.

There are five public elementary schools in the urban district. All are in a sanitary condition with an efficient supply of water.

One infants' school was closed in November owing to the extensive spread of measles and mumps amongst its scholars. All the schools were closed for the same reason in December for the fortnight immediately prior to the Christmas holidays so that the short closure might act most advantageously, the schools not being re-opened until after the Christmas holidays.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION OF THE DISTRICT.

1.—*Work of Sanitary Officials :—*

(a) The report of the Surveyor for the year 1912 is appended.

(b) The report of the Inspector of Nuisances for the year 1912 is appended.

2.—*Hospital Administration :—*

The hospital accommodation in Amble consists of one isolation hospital situated on the Links. It is an iron building and has 4 beds. It was erected for the reception of small pox patients. The hospital was not required during the year. It was in good condition and was regularly inspected and aired.

No hospital exists for other infectious diseases.

3.—*Administration of Local or General Adoptive Acts :—*

The following Acts have been adopted by the Council :—

Private Streets Works Act.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890. Parts I and III.

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.

No local acts have been adopted.

4.—*Chemical and Bacteriological Work :—*

In cases of infectious disease, where necessary, preparations are examined for the Council, at the Durham University College of Medicine Laboratory, Newcastle-on-Tyne. This opportunity is afforded to all the doctors in the district.

The following Bacteriological examinations were made during 1912 :—

		Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Diphtheria...	...	3	8	11
Tubercle ...	...	2	4	6
Enteric Fever	...	—	—	—
		—	—	—
		5	12	17

TUBERCULOSIS.

During 1912 two deaths occurred from pulmonary tuberculosis, a decrease of 3 from 1911 and a death rate of 0.4 per 1000. The ages at death were 23 and 40 years. Both were women. Other forms of tuberculosis caused 4 deaths, making in all 6 deaths from tuberculosis.

Four cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified. Of these two were fatal during the year.

Inquiries were made in all cases as to the family history on the father's and mother's sides of the house, the causes of death of members of the family, the amount of isolation obtained and the sanitary precautions used.

In two cases tuberculosis existed in the mother's family. In two cases one member of each family had died from tuberculous disease. In a third case one member of the family was suffering from tuberculous disease.

PORT SANITATION.

The vessels arriving at Warkworth Harbour were regularly inspected during the year.

In all, 329 ships were inspected. They were found in good sanitary condition.

No infectious disease occurred and cases of suspicious disease were investigated.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT.

Thirteen factories and thirty-seven workshops were on the register in 1912. There are no workplaces and no out-workers. No accidents were reported. Fifteen children and young persons were examined throughout the year and none were rejected.

Eighty-six inspections were made and the premises were in a satisfactory condition. No written notices were required and no prosecutions were instituted. No nuisances required abatement and there were no offences under the Factory and Workshops Act.

The following are the registered workshops :—

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	1
Dressmaking and Millinery	...				6
Tailoring	...	...	...	...	3
Trades such as Blacksmiths, Plumbers, Joiners, etc.	...	...	...		27
					<hr/>
					37

SUMMARY.

In conclusion, Gentlemen, I am glad that I am enabled to lay before you, in the main, a favourable report.

The death rate for 1912 has slightly increased from that of 1911. The unfavourable weather conditions throughout the year had a pronounced effect on the death rate. When we consider that 54% of the deaths were of children under 5 years and of adults over 65 years we can see the adverse result

. “of the gloomy days
 “Of all the unhealthy and o’er-darkened ways
 “Made for our searching”

Lack of sunshine makes for a lowered vitality and a lowered vitality invites the attack of disease. We must put it to the credit of our sanitation that the death rate was not heavier.

We can still flatter ourselves on having a fairly low infant mortality. On examining Table IV we see that six infants lived less than one week and three more did not survive their fourth week. Amble is not peculiar in this. In every class of population we get this unfortunate mortality among infants.

To further keep up our excellent record for sanitation I would suggest that the addition of a small accessory reservoir would greatly facilitate the cleansing of the main reservoir; that the Council should also adopt the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, and revise their bye-laws, have the various bye-laws printed and bound together—

and keep a stock of them at hand at the Council Offices so that those members of the public who require them could more easily obtain them. The purification of the Gut stream is another matter requiring attention and also the provision of a small mortuary convenient to the harbour.

I take this opportunity of thanking you, Gentlemen, for your courtesy towards me during the past year.

I also thank your Surveyor and Inspector of Nuisances for the valuable assistance they have so willingly afforded me. The town is indebted to them for the thorough and conscientious manner in which they have performed their duties. My thanks are also due to the County Medical Officer for his very kind assistance and advice during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES ANDERSON LOUGHRIDGE.



TABLE I

AMBLE DISTRICT

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1912 and previous Years.

YEAR	Population estimated to middle of each Year	BIRTHS			Total DEATHS Registered in the District		Transferable Deaths.		Net DEATHS belonging to the District		
		Un-corrected Number	Net		Number	Rate	of Non-Residents registered in the District.	of Residents registered in the District	under 1 Year of Age		At all ages.
			Number	Rate					Number	Rate per 1,000 Net Births	
I	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12 13
1907	6000	145		24.1	74	12.3					
1908	6000	148		24.7	58	9.7					
1909	6000	152		25.3	55	9.1					
1910	6000	134		22.3	54	9.0					
1911	4883	150	150	30.71	60	12.28	2	6	12	80	64 13.1
1912	5000	141	142	28.4	61	12.2	—	5	13	91.5	66 13.2

Total population at all ages, 4,883
 Number of inhabited houses 1075
 Average number of persons per house, 4.542
 Area of District in acres (land and inland water), 1220.

} At Census of 1911.

TABLE II

AMBLE DISTRICT*Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1912.*

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.							TOTAL CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL
	At all ages	Under 1	At ages—Years					
			1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 & up'rds	
Diphtheria ...	2			2				
Erysipelas ...	3			1		1		1
Scarlet Fever ...	19		6	13				
Puerperal fever ...	2					1	1	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis...	4					1	3	
Totals ...	30		6	16	2	5	1	nil.

Isolation Hospital or Hospitals, Sanatoria, etc.—*Small Pox Isolation Hospital, Amble Links.*

TABLE III

AMBLE DISTRICT

Causes of, and Ages, at Death during the Year 1912.

Causes of Death.		DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.								
		All ages	under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards
All causes	Certified	66	13	3	3	4	5	7	14	17
	Uncertified									
Whooping Cough	...	2	1		1					
Erysipelas	...	1				1				
Phthisis, (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	...	2						1		
Other tuberculous diseases	...	4	1					1	1	
Cancer, malignant disease	...	3						1	2	
Organic Heart Disease	...	11						2	5	4
Bronchitis	...	5		2	1					2
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	2				1				1
Other diseases of Respiratory organs	...	2							2	
Puerperal Fever	...	1					1			
Congenital Debility & Malformation	...									
including Premature Birth	...	9								
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicides	...	3					1	1		
Other Defined Diseases	...	21	2		1	1	2	1	4	10
Totals	...	66	13	3	3	4	5	7	14	17

TABLE IV

AMBLE DISTRICT

Infantile Mortality During the Year 1912.

Cause of Death.		under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1-3 months.	3-6 months.	6-9 months.	9-12 months.	Total deaths under 1 year.
All Causes	Certified...	6	1		2	9	1	1	1	1	13
	Uncertified										
Whooping Cough								1		1	1
Tuberculous Diseases								1			1
Premature Birth		2	1		2	5					5
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus		2				2	1		1		4
Other Causes		2				2					2
		6	1		2	9	1	1	1	1	13

Net Births in year : Legitimate 139, Illegitimate 3

Net deaths in year : 13

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT OF AMBLE
FOR THE YEAR 1912.

TO J. A. LOUGHRIDGE, M.B., Ch.B.

DEAR SIR,—I beg to present my Report of the Sanitary Administration of the Amble Urban District for the year 1912, together with the tabular statements required by Order of the Local Government Board.

HOUSING.

The whole of the orders of the Council relative to the sixteen houses reported as proceeding at the end of last year have been carried out, with the exception of the paving of the area at the rear of Lamb's Terrace and the provision of more efficient drainage to the area at the rear of Mark's Row.

During the year under review two hundred and twenty-seven houses were inspected, seventy-four of which were found to be structurally defective.

Four houses were represented to the local authority as being unfit for human habitation.

Three of these known as the Brickworks Cottages, situate in Coquet Street, were closed on the request of the local authority (no closing order was made) and a closing order made by the local authority relative to Albert House,

situate in Albert Street, had not become operative at the end of the year.

Two houses situate at Moor House Farm were voluntarily closed by the Owner.

Of the seventy-four houses found to be structurally defective, the defects of fifty-one were remedied, leaving twenty-three houses, regarding which, the orders of the local authority were either proceeding or were delayed through unavoidable circumstances.

Some of the improvements carried out were of an extensive nature involving considerable expense.

At one house, No. 26, Wynd, the dilapidated flagged floor of the kitchen was taken up, the subsoil excavated, a new wood floor laid down and adequate means of ventilation provided. New Skirtings were fixed and the walls and ceilings of the kitchen and an adjoining room replastered and an opening broken through the wall of another room which had no means of lighting and a movable sash window inserted.

Fifteen houses were inspected immediately on being vacated and notices, specifying the work to be carried out before the houses were reoccupied, were served under Sec. 15 of the Act of 1909, and in each case the notices were complied with.

Three cases of overcrowding were found, two of which were remedied and the notice relative to the other had not expired at the end of the year.

The nature of the remainder of the work effected is set out in the tabular statement hereto appended.

There was no lack of housing accomodation in the district, nineteen houses being empty at the end of the year.

NOTICES.

One hundred and forty-three informal notices were served during the year, some of which were for six or more requirements.

One hundred and twenty were complied with, leaving twenty-three to carry forward.

Two statutory notices were served, one being complied with. The work specified in the other statutory notice was not carried out and a re-inspection was made by the medical officer and a closing order decided upon.

NUISANCES.

The number of nuisances abated, including all structural defects, were two hundred and three; the nature of which are set out in the tabular statements hereto appended.

SANITARY CONVENIENCES.

Eleven privy-middens were abolished during the year, for which two water closets and six ash closets were substituted. Ten water closets were substituted for ash closets and including the new houses erected the conveniences in the district are as under :—

		Water Closets.	Ash Closets.	Privies in town.	Privies outside town.
1911	...	315	448	53	13
1912	...	327	442	44	11
New Houses	...	2	2	—	—
Totals	...	329	444	44	11

The number of houses without separate closet accommodation is the same as last year, viz., four hundred and twenty-four, with some slight improvement in the nature of the conveniences as under :—

			Water Closets.	Ash Closets.	Privies.
1911	...	...	122	254	48
1912	...	...	126	254	44

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

The use of two registered slaughter houses situate at the rear of premises in Queen Street were discontinued, thereby removing from the main street a source of great danger to the public as some difficulty was always experienced in getting the cattle through the narrow passages leading to the slaughter houses.

The number of slaughter houses in the town is five : three of these are registered and two are licensed for twelve months.

Two hundred and fifteen inspections were made, four notices, which were complied with, were served for the immediate removal of garbage and with these exceptions the slaughter houses have been well kept.

The question of public slaughter houses has had considerable attention by the local authority ; sketch plans have been prepared, enquiries made for suitable sites and at the end of the year estimates of costs were being prepared.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

Seventy inspections have been made of the four Dairies and Cowsheds situate within the district, all of which are provided with a plentiful supply of water from the town mains and are kept in a cleanly condition.

Structurally the Dairies and Cowsheds are in good order.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Eighty-six inspections were made of the thirteen factories and thirty-seven workshops in the district.

Improved conveniences were provided to two workshops and the sanitary condition of the Factories and Workshops is satisfactory.

COMMON LODGING HOUSE.

Twenty-eight inspections were made of the one Common Lodging House in the district which is registered for the accomodation of thirty-eight persons. No overcrowding has taken place and the house is admirably kept.

SHIPPING.

Three hundred and twenty-nine vessels were inspected on entering the port, of which ninety-seven were foreign vessels from foreign ports, forty-one foreign vessels from

British ports; seventy-four British vessels from foreign ports and one hundred and seventeen British vessels from home ports.

The vessels were principally those trading regularly to the port and a satisfactory state of cleanliness was maintained.

Some slight cases of illness were medically attended and no cases of infectious disease were found among the crews.

DISINFECTION.

Eighteen houses were disinfected in consequence of cases of notifiable infectious disease; infected bedding from one house was destroyed by burning and two schools were fumigated, formalin lamps were used in all cases.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

WM. BURTON.



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR FOR THE YEAR 1912.



To the Chairman and Members of the Amble Urban
District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my Annual Report upon matters dealt with by the Council during the past year.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Water Supply is from deep springs, and by analysis satisfactory. The supply is constant and at high pressure. During the last summer the supply was more than ample to meet the daily requirements for domestic and trade purposes for the district. Towards the close of the year application has been made to the Urban District Council to grant a supply of water to the village and township of Acklington by the Rural District Council of Alnwick.

NEW BUILDINGS.

Amended plans for a small Housing Scheme have been passed and carried out at Amble Moor House with a Septic Tank in connection with the Drainage arrangements instead of a proposed Cesspool, providing for the abolishment of a nuisance of long standing by piping in and

levelling up an unsightly ditch by the side of the highway, and such additional drainage as may be required about the farm steading.

Plans for a block of dwelling houses have been passed and the buildings erected in High Street, Amble.

TOWN SEWERS.

The action of the principal Sewers in carrying off the sewage from the town have been satisfactory.

SCAVENGING.

The scavenging of the district is by direct labour, and the removal of town refuse continues to be well attended to.

PUBLIC SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

The Committee have under consideration Sites for a Block of Slaughter Houses by the side of the Highway about half-a-mile out of the town.

FIRE BRIGADE.

The services of the Brigade have been called out on three occasions during the past year.

PUBLIC STREET LIGHTING.

The Falcon Street Lamps have now become universal over the town streets, and are a very great success

HIGHWAYS.

Road Board Grants—Circular letter from the County Surveyor as to work that the Urban District Council may have not been able to carry out during the past year and as to whether the Council will be likely to require any sum brought forward for work not already completed, etc.—The Committee resolved that the Surveyor write the County Surveyor to the effect that the Urban District Council had not done any Tar Grouting or Tar Spraying during the past season in consequence of the very wet weather, but expects they will be in a position to do so this ensuing season.

MOORHOUSE OLD COTTAGES.

Plans for overhauling old cottages at this steading have been rejected by the Council on the recommendation of the Committee, Medical Officer of Health and Inspector, and consequently the old Buildings have been held over from overhaul pending the plans not been passed.

HIGHWAY STONES.

These have been provided and laid on during the past year. 6,400 yards of the Streets have been coated and fixed with quarry and water ballast, which if coated by Tar spraying will be an improvement.

WM. GIBSON,
Surveyor.



Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report.

AMBLE URBAN DISTRICT. Population, 4883. W. Burton, Inspector.	HOUSING.								DRAINAGE.				CONVENIENCES		Systematic Inspections	Housing Inspections	Re-inspections	Dairies and Cowsheds	Slaughter Houses	Common Lodging House	Bakchouse	Other Workshops	Inspection of Ships	TOTALS	WORK EFFECTED.					
	Structural Defects	Overcrowding	Unfit for human habitation	Defective Spouting	Dampness	Paving of Yards.	Want of Ashbins	Various Nuisances	Foul	Untrapped or delapidated	Defective Gullies	Untrapped Waste Pipes	Structurally Defective	Foul											Privy Ashpits abolished	W.C's. substituted	Ash Closets substituted	W.C's. substituted for Ash Closets	Houses disinfected	Water laid on to Houses
NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS MADE.															334	227	150	70	215	28	12	74	329	1439	11	2	6	10	18	9
NUMBER OF DEFECTS OR CONTRAVENTIONS OF BYE-LAWS FOUND.	85	3	4	32	7	7	26	11	16	13	6	6	13	8					4					241						
NUMBER OF INFORMAL NOTICES BY THE INSPECTOR,																								143						
NUMBER OF DEFECTS, ETC., REMEDIED AFTER INFORMAL NOTICE.	74	2	3	13	5	7	22	11	16	13	6	6	13	8					4					203						
NUMBER OF STATUTORY NOTICES SERVED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY	1												1											2						
NUMBER OF DEFECTS, ETC., REMEDIED AFTER STATUTORY NOTICE.													1											1						



Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910.

Tabular Statement as required by Article V.

Name of District. AMBLE (Urban).	No. of Dwelling Houses Inspected	No. of Dwelling Houses which on Inspection, considered unfit for human habitation	No. of representations made to local authority with a view to closing orders being made	CLOSING ORDERS		No. of Dwellings in which defects remedied without closing orders being made	No. of Dwellings put into fit state for human habitation after closing orders made	GENERAL CHARACTER OF DEFECTS FOUND	REMARKS
				No. of Orders made	No. of Houses vacated at end of each year in consequence				
	227	4	4	1	5	51	0	(As Under)	Three houses closed on request of Council (no order made). Two voluntarily closed no representation made One order not operative at end of year

WORK EFFECTED.

NATURE OF WORK EFFECTED	Delapidated Outbuildings Re-modelled	New Wood Floors Laid	Wood Floors Repaired and Ventilated	Walls Re-plastered	Roofs Repaired	Fixed Windows to Movable Windows	New Stairs Fixed	Totals
No. of Houses	22	2	5	16	19	4	6	74

[illegible]

ROBERT ARCHER, *Clerk.*

